Fertilisers Stocks

412. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Miniser of AGRICULTURE be pleased to sate:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stock of fertilisers is mounting;

(b) if so, the quantum of fertilisers stock in the country by the end of March, 1988;

(c) the quantum of fertilisers consumption in the country during 1987-88 financial year; and

(d) what was the indigenous production of fertilisers by that time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILISERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As on 31-3-1988, about 36.8 lakh tonnes of fertilisers nutrients were in stock;

(c) The consumption of fertilisers during 1987-88 financial year is estimated at about 90 lakh tonnes of fertiliser nutrients;

(d) The production of fertilisers during 1987-88 financial year was 71.31 lakh tonnes of fertiliser, nutrients.

Modernisation of Steel Plant

413. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level official delegation of Steel Ministry recently visited Bonn (West Germany) and Tokyo (Japan) to negotiate for the upgradation and modernisation of some steel Plants in the country;

(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) the programmes of modernisation emerged as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A credit of DM 660 million for the modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant having been announced by the Federal Republic of Germany, discussions have been held with the authorities of that country on the scope and methodology for the utilisation of the credit offered. A Detailed Project Report is under finalisation and further discussions will be held with West German authorities and industry.

In Japan, the Indian delegation had detailed discussions with the Japanese Government, financial institutions and Japanese industry in connection with the modernisation of IISCO. As a result of these discussions, the Japanese EXIM Bank has agreed to give an export credit of approximately Rs. 900 crores to cover the cost of equipment and services from Japan. A team of Japanese experts is scheduled to visit Burnpur in the first week of August to carry out a detailed technical study of the Plant. An Appraisal Mission from the Japanese Government is also expected to visit Burnpur in the second half of August.

Television transmitters in Andhra Pradesh

414. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 87 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1988 and state the percentage of rural areas of Andhra Pradesh likely to be covered by television transmission by the end of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): About 50.7 per cent of the total area of Andhra Pradesh, covering approximately 66.8 per cent